

### IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claim 2 and amend the remaining claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A signaling medium, comprising:
  - a first plurality of ~~spaced apart~~ optical signal conductors; [[and]]
  - a first plurality of electrical signal conductors, ~~wherein at least one of the first plurality of electrical signal conductors is disposed between a selected first one and a selected second one of the first plurality of spaced apart optical signal conductors;~~
  - a first electrically conductive shield surrounding the first plurality of optical signal conductors and the first plurality of electrical signal conductors;
  - a second plurality of optical signal conductors;
  - a second plurality of electrical signal conductors; and
  - a second electrically conductive shield surrounding the second plurality of optical signal conductors and the second plurality of electrical signal conductors.
2. (Canceled)
3. (Currently Amended) The signaling medium of claim 1, ~~further comprising:~~
  - ~~— a wherein the first electrically conductive shield surrounding the first plurality of spaced apart optical signal conductors and the first plurality of electrical signal conductors[[, and]] is spaced apart from the first plurality of electrical signal conductors, [[;]]~~
  - ~~a second plurality of spaced apart optical signal conductors;~~
  - ~~a second plurality of electrical signal conductors, wherein at least one of the second plurality of electrical signal conductors is disposed between a selected first one and a selected second one of the second plurality of spaced apart optical signal conductors; and~~

— ~~a and wherein the~~ second electrically conductive shield surrounding the second plurality of ~~spaced apart~~ optical signal conductors and the second plurality of electrical signal conductors, ~~the second electrically conductive shield being is~~ spaced apart from the second plurality of electrical signal conductors ~~and electrically coupled to the first electrically conductive shield.~~

4. (Original) The signaling medium of claim 1, wherein each one of the plurality of optical signal conductors has a longitudinal axis and a cross-sectional area, wherein the longitudinal axis of each one of the plurality of optical signal conductors lies substantially parallel to the longitudinal axis of every other one of the plurality of optical signal conductors, and wherein the cross-sectional area of each one of the plurality of optical signal conductors lies within a first substantially circular area.

5. (Original) The signaling medium of claim 4, wherein each one of the plurality of electrical signal conductors has a longitudinal axis and a cross-sectional area, wherein the longitudinal axis of each one of the plurality of electrical signal conductors lies substantially parallel to the longitudinal axis of every other one of the plurality of electrical signal conductors, and wherein the cross-sectional area of each one of the plurality of electrical signal conductors lies within a second substantially circular area.

6. (Original) The signaling medium of claim 5, wherein a diameter of the second substantially circular area is less than a diameter of the first substantially circular area.

7. (Original) The signaling medium of claim 1, wherein each one of the first plurality of electrical signal conductors is disposed between a selected first one and a selected second one of the first plurality of spaced apart optical signal conductors.

8. (Original) A connector, comprising:
  - a first plurality of spaced apart optical signal terminations; and
  - a first plurality of electrical signal terminations, wherein at least one of the first plurality of electrical signal terminations is disposed between a selected first one and a selected second one of the first plurality of spaced apart optical signal terminations.
9. (Withdrawn) The connector of claim 8, further comprising:
  - an electrically conductive shield termination spaced apart from the first plurality of electrical signal terminations.
10. (Withdrawn) The connector of claim 8, comprising:
  - a first electrically conductive shield termination spaced apart from the first plurality of electrical signal terminations;
  - a second plurality of spaced apart optical signal terminations;
  - a second plurality of electrical signal terminations, wherein at least one of the second plurality of electrical signal terminations is disposed between a selected first one and a selected second one of the second plurality of spaced apart optical signal terminations; and
  - a second electrically conductive shield termination spaced apart from the second plurality of electrical signal terminations.
11. (Original) A signaling assembly, comprising:
  - a connector;
  - a first plurality of spaced apart optical signal conductors terminating in the connector; and
  - a first plurality of electrical signal conductors terminating in the connector, wherein each one of the first plurality of electrical signal conductors is disposed between a

selected first one and a selected second one of the first plurality of spaced apart optical signal conductors.

12. (Withdrawn) The signaling assembly of claim 11, further comprising:  
an electrically conductive shield terminating in the connector, wherein the electrically conductive shield surrounds the first plurality of spaced apart optical signal conductors and the first plurality of electrical signal conductors, and is spaced apart from the first plurality of electrical signal conductors.

13. (Withdrawn) The signaling assembly of claim 11, further comprising:  
a first electrically conductive shield terminating in the connector, wherein the first electrically conductive shield surrounds the first plurality of spaced apart optical signal conductors and the first plurality of electrical signal conductors, and is spaced apart from the first plurality of electrical signal conductors;

a second plurality of spaced apart optical signal conductors terminating in the connector;

a second plurality of electrical signal conductors terminating in the connector, wherein each one of the second plurality of electrical signal conductors is disposed between a selected first one and a selected second one of the second plurality of spaced apart optical signal conductors; and

a second electrically conductive shield terminating in the connector and surrounding the second plurality of spaced apart optical signal conductors and the second plurality of electrical signal conductors, the second electrically conductive shield being spaced apart from the second plurality of electrical signal conductors and electrically coupled to the first electrically conductive shield.

14. (Original) A circuit board, comprising:  
a first plurality of spaced apart optical signal terminations; and

a first plurality of electrical signal terminations, wherein at least one of the first plurality of electrical signal terminations is disposed between a selected first one and a selected second one of the first plurality of spaced apart optical signal terminations.

15. (Original) The circuit board of claim 14, further comprising:  
a connector in optical communication with the first plurality of spaced apart optical signal terminations and in electrical communication with the first plurality of electrical signal terminations.

16. (Withdrawn) The circuit board of claim 15, further comprising:  
a plurality of optical transceivers capable of being in optical communication with the first plurality of spaced apart optical signal terminations.

17. (Withdrawn) The circuit board of claim 14, further comprising:  
an electrically conductive shield termination spaced apart from the first plurality of electrical signal terminations.

18. (Withdrawn) The circuit board of claim 14, further comprising:  
a first electrically conductive shield termination spaced apart from the first plurality of electrical signal terminations;  
a second plurality of spaced apart optical signal terminations;  
a second plurality of electrical signal terminations, wherein at least one of the second plurality of electrical signal terminations is disposed between a selected first one and a selected second one of the second plurality of spaced apart optical terminations; and  
a second electrically conductive shield termination spaced apart from the second plurality of electrical signal terminations and electrically coupled to the first electrically conductive shield termination.

19. (Original) A signal communication system, comprising:

a first circuit board including a first plurality of spaced apart optical signal terminations and a first plurality of electrical signal terminations, wherein at least one of the first plurality of electrical signal terminations is disposed between a selected first one and a selected second one of the first plurality of spaced apart optical signal terminations;

a second circuit board including a second plurality of spaced apart optical signal terminations and a second plurality of electrical signal terminations, wherein at least one of the second plurality of electrical signal terminations is disposed between a selected first one and a selected second one of the second plurality of spaced apart optical signal terminations; and

a signaling medium including a first plurality of spaced apart optical signal conductors capable of being in optical communication with the first and second plurality of optical signal terminations and a second plurality of electrical signal conductors capable of being in electrical communication with the first and second pluralities of electrical signal terminations, wherein at least one of the first plurality of electrical signal conductors is disposed between a selected first one and a selected second one of the first plurality of spaced apart optical signal conductors.

20. (Original) The signal communication system of claim 19, further comprising:

an electrically conductive shield surrounding the first plurality of spaced apart optical signal conductors and the first plurality of electrical signal conductors, and spaced apart from the first plurality of electrical signal conductors.

21. (Original) The signal communication system of claim 19, further comprising:

a first electrically conductive shield surrounding the first plurality of spaced apart optical signal conductors and the first plurality of electrical signal conductors, and spaced apart from the first plurality of electrical signal conductors;

a second plurality of spaced apart optical signal conductors;

a second plurality of electrical signal conductors, wherein at least one of the second plurality of electrical signal conductors is disposed between a selected first one and a selected second one of the second plurality of spaced apart optical signal conductors; and

a second electrically conductive shield surrounding the second plurality of spaced apart optical signal conductors and the second plurality of electrical signal conductors, the second electrically conductive shield being spaced apart from the second plurality of electrical signal conductors and electrically coupled to the first electrically conductive shield.

22. (Original) The signal communication system of claim 19, wherein each one of the plurality of optical signal conductors has a longitudinal axis and a cross-sectional area, wherein the longitudinal axis of each one of the plurality of optical signal conductors lies substantially parallel to the longitudinal axis of every other one of the plurality of optical signal conductors, and wherein the cross-sectional area of each one of the plurality of optical signal conductors lies within a first substantially circular area.

23. (Original) The signal communication system of claim 22, wherein each one of the plurality of electrical signal conductors has a longitudinal axis and a cross-sectional area, wherein the longitudinal axis of each one of the plurality of electrical signal conductors lies substantially parallel to the longitudinal axis of every other one of the plurality of electrical signal conductors, and wherein the cross-sectional area of each one of the plurality of electrical signal conductors lies within a second substantially circular area.

24. (New) The signaling medium of claim 1, wherein the second electrically conductive shield is electrically coupled to the first electrically conductive shield.